



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

Surface Geology of the region about the western end of Lake Ontario. By J. W. Spencer, M.A. From the author.

On the Plumage of the Waxwing. By H. Stevenson, F.L.S. Ext. from the Trans. Norfolk Naturalists Soc., Vol. III. From the author.

Fifteenth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology. Vol. III, No. 2. From the museum.

On the Loess and associated deposits of Des Moines. By W. J. McGee and R. Ellsworth Call. Read before the Iowa Academy of Sciences, May 31, 1882. From the junior author.

The colors of Flowers as illustrated in the British flora. By Grant Allen. London, MacMillan & Co. From the publishers.

Gardening for young and old. The cultivation of garden vegetables in the farm garden. By Jos. Harris. N. Y., Orange Judd Co. From the publishers. Also, from the same—

Colorado as an agricultural State, its farms, fields and garden lands. By W. E. Tabor.

The American Palæozoic Fossils. A catalogue of the genera and species and an introduction devoted to the stratigraphical geology of the Palæozoic rocks. By S. A. Miller. From the author.

The horizon of the South Valley Hill rocks in Pennsylvania. By Dr. Persifor Frazer.

L'Épiphasme des Ascomycètes et le Glycogène des Végétaux. Thèse présentée pour l'obtention du grade de docteur agrégé pres la faculté des sciences de l'Université de Bruxelles. Par Léo Errera. From the author.

The Indiana Student, Jan., 1883.

The history of the Skull. By Professor H. G. Seeley. From the author.

Note sur des Ossements de la Baleine de Biscaye au Musée de la Rochelle. Par M. P.-J. Van Beneden. From the author.

The Journal of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History, Dec., 1882. From the society.

Report of the Geological Survey of Ohio. Vol. IV. Zoology and Botany. From the survey.

—:O:—

## GENERAL NOTES.

### GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVELS.<sup>1</sup>

AFRICA.—Mr. Stanley has published a full report of the address he recently gave in Paris. From this we learn that he left his station at Vivi, below the Yellala falls, for a journey into the interior which occupied three years, and yielded splendid results. After launching his steamer above the cataracts of the Congo, he proceeded upwards to its great southern tributary, the Kwango, which he ascended for a considerable distance, establishing five stations. At one hundred miles from the mouth of the Kwango, two large streams, one with grayish-white water, coming from south by east, the other of an inky tint, from east by south, unite to form the main river. Ascending the latter and less rapid of the two, a large lake, seventy miles long and from six to thirty-eight wide, was reached at about 120 miles from the confluence. The shores of this lake were clothed with impenetrable and lofty forests, alternating with undulating grass lands, and the natives were very wild. Much of the road from Vivi down the Congo, past the long line

<sup>1</sup> This department is edited by ELLIS H. YARNALL, Philadelphia.

of cataracts to Stanley pool, about 150 miles lower down, has been constructed. The stations established on the Kwango are superintended by Europeans, who have all the apparatus for taking meteorological and other observations.

Major Von Meechow has returned to Berlin from the Congo, which he reached July 19th, 1880. After a visit to the grand Succam-bundu waterfall, under the guidance of the great chief Tembo Aluma, he paid his respects to the great Muene Putu Kassongo, and returning, followed the river to longitude  $5^{\circ} 5'$  at which point he was compelled to return on account of the fears his followers entertained of the cannibals. He then stayed some time with Kassongo, and on February 20, 1881, arrived at Malange.

Dr. Wissmann, of the German African Society, has reached Zanzibar from Loando. Leaving the latter place in company with Dr. Pogge, he crossed to Mukenge (about  $6^{\circ}$  S. and  $22^{\circ}$  E.), and thence set out for Nyangwe on the Lualaba, whence Wissman proceeded to Zanzibar, while Pogge returned to Mukenge to plant a station there.

There are now four German expeditions in Africa, two proceeding from the east, and two from the west. Dr. Stecker, after visiting King John of Abyssinia, in company with Dr. Rohlf's continued onwards through the Soudan; Dr. Böhrn and Dr. Kayser report upon a three months' journey to Lake Tanganyika; Herr Paul Reichard is at Gondo, and in company with Dr. Bohrn, has explored the Wala river to its mouth; and Capt. V. Scholer, after founding a station at Kakama, proceeded to Zanzibar.

Robert Flegel has made a minute cartographical survey of the hitherto unknown part of the Niger, between Muri and Shay. At the beginning of December he reached Keffi on his way to the Binne.

Dr. Junker has cleared up the hydrography of the Welle, which he believes to be the upper course of the Shari, while the Aruwimi, the great tributary of the Congo, rises further to the east.

ASIA.—In the course of his late journey from Canton through Yunnan to Bhamo, Mr. Colquhoun was enabled to collect much information regarding Yunnan, which is a great uneven plateau, the main ranges of which bend north and south, reaching northward an elevation of twelve to seventeen thousand feet, and sinking at the southern limit to seven or eight thousand. In the south and south-west are many fertile lakes and valleys, some with large lakes. These plains are rich and thickly peopled by a comfortable-looking peasantry. Pears, peaches, chestnuts, even grapes and other fruits are abundant, while camelias, roses and rhododendrons grow on the hill-sides. Silver, lead, copper and tin are abundant and caravans laden with them were often passed; while gold is beaten out into leaf in Tali, and sent in large quantities to Birma. Mines of coal, iron, silver, tin and copper were repeatedly seen. The temperature in the south is moderate,

without excessive rains, but to the north the country becomes sterile, and the population sparse, until in the extreme north fogs and rain are perpetually present. The people chiefly belong to aboriginal tribes, the Lolo Pai, and Maio, the Chinese being chiefly of the official class and resident in the towns.

The natives are frank, genial, and hospitable, and have a more distinct physiognomy than the Chinese. The women do not crush their feet, dress in a costume not unlike that worn of old by Swiss and Tyrolese maidens, and catch their husbands by throwing balls to the young men, who range themselves on the opposite side of a gully. Whoever catches the ball wins its thrower, but she always throws it so that the right man can catch it. The *couvade* is still practised in some parts, as in Marco Polo's time. When a child is born, the husband goes to bed for thirty days, while the wife looks after the work.

Mr. Colquhoun's journey was chiefly inspired by the desire to penetrate through the Shan States as far as Zimmè, a resolve in which he was unfortunately thwarted by the mandarin of the Chinese frontier town of Ssümao. He learned, however, that the Shan States are now entirely independent, since the Chinese withdrew their resident mandarin from Kiang-Hung six years ago, and the Burmese residents in this and other states were forced to retire within the last year or two. No tribute is now paid to either China or Burma. The most highly prized tea comes from the Shan States, especially from I-Bang, and is forwarded by caravan to the Yang-tzse, and thence by river to Shanghai, so that it is too dear to be exported.

The narrative of the travels of Count Szechenzi's party, which spent three years in Japan and China, and reached Rangoon in March, 1880, has been published. Little is added to geographical knowledge except altitudes taken in the Chung-tien plateau, within the great bend of the Kinsha-kiang. A map of the watershed of the great rivers is given. Upon it the Great and Little Irawadi are carried through the unexplored Pomi country to  $32^{\circ}$  N.; while the Lu-Kiang (Salwen) and Lantsan-Kiang (Me-Khong) are traced to  $34^{\circ}$  N. and  $92^{\circ}$  E., within a short distance of the valley of the Yangtze-Kiang. The basins of five great streams (including the Sanpu or upper Brahmaputra) are at one point crowded together into a space of 280 miles, and the water-partings are formed by a series of lofty ridges between Se-chuen and East Assam.

The journey of M. P. M. Lassar from Askabad to Sarakhs and thence to Herat, the capital of western Afghanistan, has proved that the supposed great mountain chain of Paropamisas is nothing more than a line of sand hills less than 1000 feet in height. Consequently there is no obstacle in the road of the projected Russian railway from the Caspian to Askabad, and from thence to Herat.

Mr. F. A. Bourne has visited the Imperial Mausolea, east of Pekin, forbidden ground to all. The great wall forms the northern

boundary of the enclosure, which occupies some 25 square miles. Outside of this an outer wall is carried, except where there is no natural boundary, around a still larger area of ground within which none may build a dwelling and none be buried save the emperors of China. The tombs are much alike, and contain several stone buildings.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.—A "Carpathian Club," for the study of the mountains of the country, has been formed at Hermannstadt (Transylvania) and already numbers 1200 members.—"Die Adria," a work in twenty-five parts, gives most valuable information relative to the geography, commerce, fisheries, etc., of the eastern shore of the Adriatic.—M. Miklukho Maclay has recently given a lecture before the Russian Geographical Society on his stay in New Guinea. The natives of the north-west coast, where he resided for a long time, were in the lowest stage of culture. They did not know how to rekindle a fire, and were compelled to borrow from another hut or another village when their fire went out. They place their dead in a sitting position, covered with cocoa-nut leaves, while for three weeks a fire is kept up beside the body till it is dried.—M. Maclay believes that the Papuans of the coast and of the interior belong to the same race. Both brachycephalic and dolichocephalic skulls occur everywhere, so that this feature affords no ground for a separation. The hair does not grow in clusters, as has been stated, and the size of the curls does not exceed that of the Negritos. On parts of the coast traces of Malay blood are evident. The Malays of Celebes bring with them Malay girls for wives to the Papuans, and take back Papuan girls in exchange. Lake Kamaka-Vallar is a lake of warm water without an outlet, but when the waters rise fifteen or twenty feet above the usual level a temporary outlet is formed by the giving way of the sides. The Papuans of the Koviay coast live in covered boats, in which they cruise in search of food, landing only at night for fear of the highlanders, whose enmity they have incurred by their former slave-making habits. The disease, drunkenness and firearms introduced by traders, and even by the missionaries of some societies, more than counterbalance the good done by the religious and secular teachings of the missionaries.—The Danish steamer *Djimpna* is reported safe, and will winter at the mouth of the Petchora. All on board are well, provisions ample, and the vessel uninjured by the ice while drifting about in it near Maigatz Island.—Dr. Riebeck, after exploring Socotra in company with Dr. Schweinfurth, has travelled through the Himalayas and various parts of India, and has taken many photographs and casts of the Hill tribes of the Karnasuli river.—A Chinaman, Huang Mao-ts'ai, has travelled in India, and published a book in which he accuses England and other European nations of acquiring territory by the three steps of "stealthily beguiling," "encroaching

by degrees" and finally "swallowing up," yet shows a high appreciation of English rule in India —Dr. Arthur Krause has returned to Germany from a journey to the Chukchi Peninsula and Alaska. —The ordnance survey of Scotland is completed. —Easter Island is now almost entirely owned by the "Maison Brander" of Tahiti. It is a large grazing farm, and there are now about 10,000 sheep and 400 cattle upon it. Half wild poultry are abundant, and potatoes, bananas, and plantains grow readily. The natives left are only about 150 in number, as 500. were shipped to Tahiti about eight years ago, and the missionaries removed 300. The few left are thieves, without any religion.—The extinct crater Te Kama Kao contains a lake covered with a carpet of decayed vegetation, and with no bottom at 50 fathoms in the centre.

### GEOLOGY AND PALÆONTOLOGY.

PHYSICAL AND GEOLOGICAL CHARACTER OF THE SEA-BOTTOM UNDER THE GULF STREAM.—The longest and most interesting paper read at the late meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, was by Professor A. E. Verrill, discussing the physical and geological character of the sea-bottom off our coast, especially beneath the Gulf stream.

The paper embodied the general results of observations covering a period of eleven years, including dredgings by the United States Fish Commission, taken from over 2000 stations between Chesapeake bay and Labrador, and out as far as 150 to 200 miles off shore. Professor Verrill and his associates of the commission found in these observations that from the shore to a point about sixty miles out the water is inhabited by animals representing arctic life, similar to those found off the coast of Greenland, Spitzbergen and Siberia. Beyond this lies a warm belt of water which is inhabited by tropical or sub-tropical animals. This warm belt varies with the shore-line of the coast, and while its eastern edge is within sixty miles of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, it is much further off from the coast of Massachusetts and Maine; as what is known as the Gulf of Maine is a cold body of water, outside of which lies the warm belt. This warm belt is about twenty-five miles in width. In this the temperature from a depth of 65 fathoms out to the limits where the soundings show a depth of 1000 fathoms, is from 46° to 52° Fahrenheit near the surface, decreasing in temperature in the lower soundings, until at 700 fathoms it is 39°. In the cold belt the temperature of the water ranges from 35° to 45° in August below the surface water, which is in the autumn warmer than that underneath. The temperature at 40 fathoms in the cold belt averages from 35° to 37°. In the warm belt the temperature at 65 fathoms is 46°; at 100 fathoms, 50° to 52°; at 200 fathoms, 48°; at 300, 40°; and at 700, 39°. As a result of the soundings, measurement of tempera-